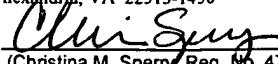


Amendment After Final Action

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dated: December 5, 2008 Signature: 
(Christina M. Sperry, Reg. No. 47,106)

Docket No.: 101896-0252
(DEP5319)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RE Patent Application of:
Michael A. Slivka et al.

Application No.: 10/709,795

Confirmation No.: 3794

Filed: May 28, 2004

Art Unit: 3733

For: ANCHORING SYSTEMS AND METHODS
FOR CORRECTING SPINAL DEFORMITIES

Examiner: R. R. Shaffer

AMENDMENT FILED WITH A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Madam:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Applicants submit this paper and a Request for Continued Examination in response to the Office Action dated September 5, 2008.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.